Seattle City Council Select Budget Committee

Councilmember Budget Proposals| Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Department of Neighborhoods (DON)

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SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

2026 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

V1

DON-002S-A

Request that DON study and report on establishing a Black Advisory Council

SPONSORS

Joy Hollingsworth, Rob Saka, Debora Juarez

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Statement of Legislative Intent would request that DON study and report to Council on the budgetary and legislative actions necessary to establish a Black Advisory Council. DON should consult with community organizations and leaders throughout the study. The study should support recommendations on matters including: purpose, membership, terms, appointment, compensation, and staffing. The history of the establishment of the Indigenous Advisory Council in 2021 may be informative to this study.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Libraries, Education & Neighborhoods

DUE DATE: June 1, 2026

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

DON-003-A

Increase DON by $5,000 GF in the Neighborhood Matching Fund to support annual Halloween events for children

SPONSORS

Joy Hollingsworth, Rob Saka, Alexis Mercedes Rinck

BALANCING SUMMARY

Fund	2026 Increase (Decrease)	2027 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	$(5,000)	
Total Budget Balance Effect	$(5,000)	

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action would increase proposed appropriations to the Department of Neighborhoods' (DON) Neighborhood Matching Fund by $5,000 GF (one-time) to support annual Halloween events for children that happen in communities, such as Pridefest's Hilloween.

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONE-TIME

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
DON	Community Grants	00100-BO-DN-I3400	2026		$5,000

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

2026 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

V1

DON-004S-A

Request that DON inventory Black and African American Historic Buildings and Cultural Places

SPONSORS

Joy Hollingsworth, Rob Saka, Debora Juarez

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Statement of Legislative Intent would request that Department of Neighborhoods (DON) inventory the historical Black and African American buildings and cultural places in the Black and African American community and deliver the inventory to Council by June 1, 2026. It is Council's intent that DON rely on community knowledge and resources that preserve the history and cultural meaning of the buildings and places to enrich the inventory. DON should consult with the Landmarks Preservation Board, the Review Committees of Seattle's Historic Districts, and leverage existing information sources including: the Landmarks List, the Landmarks Map, the Historic Resources Survey Database, and the materials from nomination and designation of Seattle Landmarks. The inventory should include for each building or place a description of its current physical condition and recommendations for renovation and restoration.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Libraries, Education & Neighborhoods

DUE DATE: June 1, 2026

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

DON-005-A

Increase DON by $50,000 GF to support Seattle Renters' Commission

SPONSORS

Debora Juarez, Rob Saka, Alexis Mercedes Rinck

BALANCING SUMMARY

Fund	2026 Increase (Decrease)	2027 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	$(50,000)	
Total Budget Balance Effect	$(50,000)	

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action would increase proposed appropriations to the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) by $50,000 GF (one-time) to support the Seattle Renters' Commission including the creation of a strategic work plan to move priorities forward.

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONE-TIME

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
DON	Community Building	00100-BO-DN-I3300	2026		$50,000

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

DON-007-A

Increase DON by $2.6 million GF to the Neighborhood Matching Fund for repairs and renovations to inclusive, neighborhood gathering places

SPONSORS

Rob Saka, Debora Juarez, Sara Nelson

BALANCING SUMMARY

Fund	2026 Increase (Decrease)	2027 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	$(2,600,000)	
Total Budget Balance Effect	$(2,600,000)	

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action would increase appropriations to Department of Neighborhoods' (DON) Neighborhood Matching Fund by $2.6 million GF (one-time) to support construction and renovation of buildings and structures serving diverse communities that provide inclusive, neighborhood gathering places such as the Highland Park Improvement Club. Such places host neighborhood meetings, arts and cultural events, emergency preparedness activities, food distribution sites and mutual aid efforts.

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONE-TIME

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
DON	Community Grants	00100-BO-DN-I3400	2026		$2,600,000

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

DON-008-A

Increase DON by $5 million JumpStart and 2.0 FTE Planning and Development Specialist II for community re-investment programs and decrease OH by $5 million JumpStart

SPONSORS

Joy Hollingsworth, Rob Saka, Debora Juarez

BALANCING SUMMARY

Fund	2026 Increase (Decrease)	2027 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	$0	
Other Funds	$0	
Total Budget Balance Effect	$0	

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action (CBA) would increase appropriations to the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) by $5 million JumpStart Fund and decrease appropriations to the Office of Housing (OH) by $5 million JumpStart Fund for a community re-investment grants program and would increase DON by 2.0 FTE Planning and Development Specialist II to implement this program. A portion of the $5 million would support the new positions.

The grant program is intended to commence after Office of Civil Rights completes a reparations study and Office of Planning and Community Development completes a proposal for administration of coordinated funds to support investments in housing, culture, community and commerce focusing on remedying historical injustices experienced by descendants of Black slaves, people of Black lineage, members of the African diaspora, and descendants of chattel slavery.

The reduction of JumpStart by $5 million in OH will have an impact on OH's affordable housing production, as this funding would otherwise have been used to fund new affordable housing units.

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONGOING

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
DON	Community Grants	14500-BO-DN-I3400	2026		$5,000,000
OH	Multifamily Housing	14500-BO-HU-3000	2026		$(5,000,000)

POSITIONS

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

Dept	BCL	Year	Position Title	Positions	FTE
DON	00100-BO-DN-I3300	2026	Planning and Development Specialist II	2	2.0

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

DON-009-A

Increase DON by $487,000 GF and 3.0 FTE for community engagement and outreach

SPONSORS

Debora Juarez, Joy Hollingsworth, Alexis Mercedes Rinck

BALANCING SUMMARY

Fund	2026 Increase (Decrease)	2027 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	$(487,000)	
Total Budget Balance Effect	$(487,000)	

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action would increase proposed appropriations to the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) by $487,000 GF and 3.0 FTE Planning and Development Specialist II for community engagement and outreach.

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONGOING

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
DON	Community Building	00100-BO-DN-I3300	2026		$487,000

POSITIONS

Dept	BCL	Year	Position Title	Positions	FTE
DON	00100-BO-DN-I3300	2026	Planning and Development Specialist II	3	3.0

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

DON-010-A

Increase DON by $100,000 GF for One Seattle Day of Service

SPONSORS

Dan Strauss, Mark Solomon, Alexis Mercedes Rinck

BALANCING SUMMARY

Fund	2026 Increase (Decrease)	2027 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	$(100,000)	
Total Budget Balance Effect	$(100,000)	

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action (CBA) would increase proposed appropriations to the Department of Neighborhoods (DON) by $100,000 GF to support the One Seattle Day of Service. The 2026 Proposed Budget would transfer responsibilities for the One Seattle Day of Service from the Department of Finance and Administrative Services (FAS) to DON along with appropriations of $250,000 GF. This CBA would increase that appropriation to a total of $350,000.

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONGOING

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
DON	Community Building	00100-BO-DN-I3300	2026		$100,000

2026 COUNCIL BUDGET ACTION

V1

DON-011-A

Increase DON by $100,000 GF for Local Government 101 education and awareness

SPONSORS

Maritza Rivera, Joy Hollingsworth, Sara Nelson

BALANCING SUMMARY

Fund	2026 Increase (Decrease)	2027 Increase (Decrease)
General Fund	$(100,000)	
Total Budget Balance Effect	$(100,000)	

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Council Budget Action would increase proposed appropriations to the Department of Neighborhoods' (DON) Neighborhood Matching Fund by $100,000 GF for the Small Sparks program to support education and awareness matching grants, “local government 101,” with the goal of engaging and informing constituents about the roles of local government branches, city departments and how the government works in general. The grants would support community councils, neighborhood, and other constituent groups in their efforts toward educating and informing residents

ATTACHMENT: No

TRANSACTIONS - ONGOING

Dept	BSL	BCL	Year	Revenue	Expenditure
DON	Community Grants	00100-BO-DN-I3400	2026		$100,000